

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for pre-processing and packaging class files.

Embodiments remove duplicate information elements from a set of class files

- 5 to reduce the size of individual class files and to prevent redundant resolution of the information elements. Memory allocation requirements are determined in advance for the set of classes as a whole to reduce the complexity of memory allocation when the set of classes are loaded. The class files are stored in a single package for efficient storage, transfer and processing
- 10 as a unit. In an embodiment, a pre-processor examines each class file in a set of class files to locate duplicate information in the form of redundant constants contained in a constant pool. The duplicate constant is placed in a separate shared table, and all occurrences of the constant are removed from the respective constant pools of the individual class files. During pre-
- 15 processing, memory allocation requirements are determined for each class file, and used to determine a total allocation requirement for the set of class files. The shared table, the memory allocation requirements and the reduced class files are packaged as a unit in a multi-class file.